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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. UPTON].

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 17, 1995.

I hereby designate the Honorable FRED UPTON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

As we look at the myriad decisions of the day and the options that are before us and all people, we pray, almighty God, for the assurance that Your Word does give. We know of the uncertainty of every life and we are aware of how our plans go awry, and yet we know too of the confidence we can have in Your love that sustains into every day ahead. May Your strong Word, O God, that brought the world into being and breathed into us the very breath of life, give each person the faith and hope and love to live each day with fullness and with grace. In Your name, we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on

agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Chair's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed until later this afternoon.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. CHABOT] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CHABOT led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF HOUSE CURRENT RESOLUTION 32

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of House Current Resolution 32.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would announce that he will entertain 15 1-minutes on each side.

STILL NO PLAN FROM THE PRESIDENT TO BALANCE THE BUDGET

Mr. WELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

(Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, Thomas Jefferson said, "We should consider ourselves unauthorized to saddle posterity with our debts, and morally bound to pay them ourselves." And yet as of yesterday, the national debt stood at \$4,881,377,281,278.42, an increase of \$22.2 billion.

At this rate, the national debt will have increased by another \$15,448,819 in the time it takes me to finish this short 1-minute speech.

The debt burden for each individual American, including those babies born yesterday, now stands at \$18,626.02, an \$89 increase—again that is per person.

It has been 76 days since we challenged the President to present his plan to balance the budget and 20 days since we asked him to help us help fix Medicare.

In the absence of leadership from the White House, Republicans have offered a plan to balance the budget by 2002 so that our children will have a future free from debt and a standard of living better than our own.

Mr. Speaker, where is the President's plan? We are still waiting.

SAVING MEDICARE?

(Ms. RIVERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. RIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to point out some inconsistencies in many of the arguments that we are hearing today. In the Republican budget, the line item that guts Medicare is called saving Medicare.

Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker, this is not about saving Medicare. This is

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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